

OREGON CROP WEATHER



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

USDA, NASS, Oregon Field Office

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Weather: Warm and dry conditions were prevalent for the second week in a row throughout the State. High temperatures ranged from 101 degrees in Ontario and Rome, down to 65 degrees at the Crescent City station. Low temperatures ranged from 59 degrees in Ontario down to an almost freezing 35 degrees at the Worden station. Precipitation remained scarce throughout the State during this past week. Thirty-four out of the forty-three stations received no precipitation at all. The Christmas Valley station recorded the most with only 0.18 total inches, making it the only station to have a positive Departure from Normal (DFN). Several areas report that traditional water sources are dry.

Field Crops: Hot and dry conditions prevailed through the first week of August in eastern areas, while western areas of the State had cooler weather with an occasional light sprinkle. Grass seed harvest and small grain harvest active. Western Oregon wheat harvest should start soon. Grass seed harvest was slowed this past week due to wet conditions in Northwest areas. Irrigation was on going throughout the State. Some growers were struggling with the amount of water resources they have left for the growing season. Hay yields in Baker County were reported to be down significantly this year. A second or third cutting of hay may not be possible. Some dry bean fields were harvested last week in Malheur County and potato harvest in Umatilla County was in full swing with good yields.

Vegetables: Lots of fresh vegetables were for sale at farmer's markets and roadside stands, mostly consisting of squash, snap beans, onions, sweet corn, and some early tomatoes. Sweet corn was reported to be at various stages in the Willamette Valley, from knee-high to tasseling to setting. It was just becoming available at produce stands and farmer's markets. Central Oregon planting of 2008 carrot seed started; onions and parsley already planted. The Umatilla County onion harvest was getting started for spring planted onions.

Fruits and Nuts: Early apples were being picked and the picking of raspberries had also started. The blueberries were reported to be looking very nice, but mummyberries are more prevalent this year. Cranberries were putting on some size. Some early plums and Bartlett pears were almost ready for harvest in Jackson County. The favorable weather provided growers with opportunities to apply summer cover sprays in Hood River. In the lower Hood River Valley, growers prepared orchards for summer pear harvest. Wasco County stone fruit harvest continued and pears were starting to take on a yellow color.

Nurseries and Greenhouses: Greenhouses were getting ready for fall production and nurseries were busy with a lot of watering and plant up-keep. Greenhouse melons were on the market. Nurseries were trucking potted plants and trees, and were irrigating new and established plants.

Livestock, Range and Pasture: Prevailing hot and dry conditions have combined to continually deteriorate pasture conditions in Harney County. Normally reliable waterholes and spring developments are dry, leaving livestock producers seeking options for providing stock water to use range forage. Irrigation water in some areas of Baker County has been cut off this past week. Livestock on irrigated pastures are hold up quite well, but livestock on dry ground pastures are getting supplemental feed. Afternoon breezes continue to really dry things up in Jackson County. Dry conditions everywhere have made people really cautious and observant about smoke and fire.

Soil Moisture-Week Ending 08/05/07

	Very short	Short	Adequate	Surplus
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Topsoil	39	40	21	0
Subsoil	32	51	17	0

Crop Progress-Week Ending 08/05/07

Crop	This week	Last week	Last year	5 year average
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Alfalfa hay, second cutting	97	95	93	19
Winter wheat harvested	82	60	57	66
Barley harvested	77	41	48	60
Spring wheat harvested	60	48	44	51
Days suitable for fieldwork	6.9	6.7	6.9	6.8

Crop Condition-Week Ending 08/05/07

Crop	Very poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Percent</i>
Winter wheat	0	16	30	49	5
Spring wheat	0	16	48	35	1
Barley	0	17	62	20	1
Corn	0	3	7	52	38
Range and pasture	16	26	39	19	0

WESTERN OREGON

BENTON/LINN/LANE: Grass seed harvest continues, and many fields are already plowed for 2008. Mint and peppermint harvest is ongoing. Native plums are ripening and are producing a big crop. Early harvested peaches are looking nice and big and have a good taste. Early apples are being picked. It was a good overall season for cherries. Blueberries are looking very nice, but mummyberries have been a major problem this year. Picking of raspberries has started. Corn harvest is beginning for the fresh produce growers. Greenhouse melons are on the market. The weather has been taking its toll on greenhouse sales either being too hot or too cold.

CLACKAMAS: Grass seed harvest was slowed by morning clouds and dew, with the occasional light drizzle and slightly cooler days. The blueberry crop is looking good. Pastures are just about gone and farmers are almost ready to start feeding hay.

CLATSOP: Most pastures are still looking pretty good.

COOS/CURRY: Fruit sizing of cranberries continues.

JACKSON: Grain crops are just about ripe for harvest. There is still just a little second cutting of alfalfa hay being done. Some second cutting of grass hay is also taking place, but only on fields that had a very early first cutting. Some ground preparation for fall planting is being done. Wild blackberries and peaches are being picked. Some early plums and Bartlett pears are also about ready. Lots of fresh vegetables are for sale at farmer's markets and roadside stands, mostly consisting of squash, snap beans, onions, sweet corn, and some early tomatoes. Greenhouses are getting ready for fall production. Nurseries are busy with a lot of watering and plant up-keep. Irrigated pastures are holding up quite well, so livestock on those pastures are doing fine. Livestock on dry ground pastures are getting supplemental feed. Lots of irrigation is ongoing to keep crops coming on. The soil is really quite dry, and a good rain would be a big help. Temperatures have been about normal for the last week. We are still getting afternoon breezes that really dry things up.

JOSEPHINE: It has been very hot and dry for six days last week. Yesterday was a cool morning, but turned into a hot afternoon. Irrigation is going full tilt every where. Animals are looking good. The blueberry crop is phenomenal here. Dry conditions everywhere have made people really cautious and observant about smoke and fire. The water situation still looks good. Truck gardens have products available now like summer squash, green beans, and corn. Grapes continue to plump and vines are looking good everywhere.

MARION: Grass seed harvest is progressing well and is likely over half done in the County. Specialty harvests like flowers, nursery, and cannery crops are being harvested as they reach the proper stage. These crops seem to be following "normal" summer patterns. I haven't seen any wheat or barley being harvested yet, but it looks like it will be ready when the combines are done with grass and can be converted for harvest of small grains. Weather took a warm spike in the middle of the week then cooled to become somewhat on the cool side for mid-summer, but is very pleasant.

POLK: Yields on grass seed have been reported as below average.

WASHINGTON: Baling of grass seed straw continues and combining grass for seed is ongoing and yields are better than expected. Field corn is tasseling. Bees are in red clover and fall wheat is nearly ready for harvest. Blackberry harvest is starting and peach harvest is continuing. Irrigating and harvesting blueberries continues. Sweet corn is at various stages, from knee-high to tasseling and setting. Nurseries are trucking potted plants and trees and are irrigating new and established plants. Pastures continue to dry and supplemental feed is required. Livestock are looking good. High temperature of 90 degrees with a low of 51 degrees. High humidity of 62 percent and a low of 34 percent.

YAMHILL: Oats are being harvested. Grasses are in full swing. Mustard or radish for seed was harvested this week. Fresh sweet corn is just becoming available at produce stands and farmer's markets.

EASTERN OREGON

BAKER: It has been hot and dry. Irrigation water in some areas has been cut off this week. Some producers are fortunate enough to get stock water from the irrigation ditch but that is it. The Baker Valley will go a little bit longer on irrigation before they are turned off as well. The rivers and streams have little to no water flowing through them. Producers are struggling to find water sources to water their livestock. Hay yields are down dramatically this year also. Most of the producers won't be able to cut a second cutting of grass hay. It is too early to tell if a third cutting of alfalfa will be possible this year.

HARNEY: Prevailing hot and dry conditions have combined to continually deteriorate pasture conditions. Normally reliable waterholes and spring developments are dry, leaving livestock producers seeking options for providing stock water to use range forage. The Egley Complex was 100% controlled and significant portions of the area were reopened to the public on August 4. Conversations have begun to discuss finding replacement forage for those permittees burned out.

HOOD RIVER: Fair weather provided growers with opportunities to apply summer cover sprays. In the lower Hood River Valley, growers prepared orchards for summer pear harvest. Summer orchard operations continued work throughout the Valley.

JEFFERSON: Kentucky bluegrass threshing is almost complete. Planting for the 2008 carrot seed crop is beginning. The 2008 onions and parsley have already been planted.

LAKE: Hot temperatures persisted through the week, however the weekend temperatures were cooler with highs in the low 80's.

We did not receive any precipitation during the week, despite some cloudy conditions during mid-week.

MALHEUR: The weather has still been hot and dry with a slight cooling in temperatures over the weekend. Wheat harvest is going good. Some dry bean harvest has begun. Most of the second cutting of alfalfa is in the stack. Irrigation water is still in fair supply.

SHERMAN: Winter wheat harvest wraps up soon except for the traditional late bloomers. Yields are about average or slightly better and the quality is good. Spring crops that have produced on far less moisture are reporting some disappointing yields. Creeks are dry, including many that normally run year round. The grass shows stress of drought as well. Wind Towers continue to grow in the NE part of the County with another 80 towers laying in pieces ready to build. BPA power line looks to be done in August, so the newest set of towers can go on-line. Grain prices allow an even the worst manager the chance to sell at all-time highs. We still need some good fall rains.

UMATILLA: Potato harvest is in full swing and yields are normal or above. Onion harvest is getting started for spring planted onions.

WASCO: It was good weather for wheat harvest throughout the past week. The overall harvest is now 75 percent completed and the wheat crop is looking good. Several wheat harvest related fires occurred during the week. Alfalfa haying continued all week. Cattle are holding their own on the current pasture conditions. Harvest of the stone fruit crops continued and pears are starting to take on a yellow color.

Weather data for selected stations in Oregon, Week ending: August 5, 2007 (as of 11:00 am) ¹

Station	Air temperature ²				Growing degree days ³		Last week precip. ⁴			Season cum. precipitation ⁵			
	Low	High	Avg.	DFN ⁶	Total	DFN ⁶	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Days ⁷	Total inches	DFN ⁶	Pct. normal	Days ⁷
COASTAL AREAS													
Astoria/Clatsop	49	74	62	+2	85	+8	0.03	-0.18	1	72.91	7.69	112	192
Bandon ⁸	57	71	65	+7	106	+43	0.01	-0.12	1	55.94	-2.08	96	164
Crescent City	49	65	58	-2	55	-8	-	-0.14	-	58.94	-5.41	92	126
Florence	42	73	59	-3	64	-8	-	-0.21	-	86.04	10.78	114	150
North Bend	52	68	60	+0	71	+1	0.03	-0.11	1	60.65	-1.79	97	143
Tillamook	45	73	60	+2	73	+10	0.01	-0.27	1	54.70	-32.37	63	170
WILLAMETTE VALLEY													
Aurora ⁸	50	95	69	+3	134	+15	-	-0.14	-	41.22	1.02	103	145
Corvallis	49	94	68	+2	125	+6	-	-0.14	-	46.45	4.52	111	143
Detroit Lake ⁸	49	93	69	+6	135	+37	-	-0.21	-	87.34	20.93	132	164
Eugene	45	93	67	-2	119	-7	-	-0.14	-	38.67	-9.72	80	126
Hillsboro	48	94	66	+0	116	-3	-	-0.16	-	34.88	-1.74	95	141
McMinnville	47	95	67	+1	123	+4	-	-0.10	-	35.97	-6.55	85	144
Portland	55	90	70	+1	141	+7	-	-0.15	-	34.08	-1.24	96	153
Salem	49	95	69	+2	133	+11	-	-0.13	-	39.90	1.41	104	129
SW VALLEYS													
Grants Pass	55	98	73	+2	164	+5	-	-0.07	-	30.03	-0.55	98	100
Medford	54	98	75	+2	177	+9	-	-0.07	-	17.61	-0.78	96	97
Roseburg	54	94	72	+3	154	+14	-	-0.08	-	30.72	-1.41	96	114
NORTH CENTRAL													
Condon	45	96	69	+2	133	+14	-	-0.14	-	14.11	0.67	105	99
Echo ⁸	48	100	73	-1	163	-4	-	-0.07	-	9.02	0.41	105	96
Heppner	46	96	71	+0	146	+6	-	-0.10	-	14.14	0.84	106	105
Hermiston	48	99	73	+0	165	-2	-	-0.07	-	8.39	-0.22	97	85
Madras ⁸	43	95	68	+0	130	+4	0.01	-0.07	1	7.22	-2.71	73	84
Moro	46	94	67	-2	124	-9	-	-0.07	-	11.30	0.60	106	84
Parkdale ⁸	42	93	65	-4	106	-20	-	-0.07	-	34.72	4.44	115	107
Pendleton	51	98	72	-3	157	-11	-	-0.07	-	10.24	-1.30	89	91
Prairie City ⁸	43	95	68	+0	130	+4	0.01	-0.07	1	7.22	-2.71	73	84
The Dalles	53	100	74	+8	173	+47	-	-0.07	-	12.45	0.39	103	77
SOUTH CENTRAL													
Agency Lake ⁸	42	89	65	+2	108	+10	-	-0.13	-	15.82	0.26	102	100
Bend	44	91	66	+2	112	+14	-	-0.10	-	10.64	-0.54	95	70
Burns	41	97	71	+5	149	+32	-	-0.14	-	8.54	-0.86	91	80
Christmas Valley ⁸	39	97	67	-3	120	-13	0.18	0.06	1	6.03	-5.83	51	77
Klamath Falls	45	92	69	+1	134	+7	-	-0.13	-	9.85	-3.13	76	77
Klamath Falls ⁸	45	91	69	+1	134	+7	0.12	-0.01	2	11.28	-1.42	89	107
Lakeview	43	97	72	+6	159	+39	-	-0.07	-	3.70	-11.43	24	48
Lorella ⁸	39	93	67	-2	120	-7	-	-0.13	-	9.98	-3.00	77	88
Redmond	37	95	66	-2	114	-5	-	-0.09	-	4.65	-3.42	58	52
Worden ⁸	35	95	66	-3	114	-13	0.01	-0.12	1	8.13	-4.85	63	98
NORTHEAST													
Baker City	39	94	68	+0	127	+1	-	-0.17	-	5.61	-4.45	56	85
Joseph	45	91	68	+8	130	+51	-	-0.21	-	13.58	-10.30	57	109
La Grande	43	97	71	+0	148	+3	-	-0.16	-	7.62	-9.02	46	74
Union	44	98	70	+3	144	+18	-	-0.14	-	9.94	-3.00	77	90
SOUTHEAST													
Ontario	59	101	80	+4	211	+24	-	-0.07	-	5.84	-3.45	63	65
Rome	54	101	77	+5	192	+35	-	-0.07	-	3.25	-4.59	41	61

¹ Summary based on NWS data. Copyright 2007: AWIS, Inc. All Rights Reserved.

² Air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit.

³ Growing degree days base-50 degrees Fahrenheit.

⁴ Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.

⁵ Season cumulative precipitation starts September 1, 2006.

⁶ DFN=Departure from normal (using 1961-1990 normals period).

⁷ Precipitation days = Days with precipitation of 0.01 inch or more.

⁸ Agri-Met weather stations.